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BOROUGH



OF LEIGH



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year 1939

*With the Compliments
of the Medical Officers
of Health.*

3

BOROUGH OF LEIGH, 1939.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor T. R. GREENOUGH, M.A., (Camb.), F.I.C., J.P.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor W. SEDDON

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| His Worship The Mayor (Councillor H. Gough, J.P.) | |
| Ald. W. Collier, J.P. | Coun. C. H. Bratt |
| „ N. Fairhurst, J.P. | „ T. Haseldine |
| „ W. Grundy, J.P. | „ J. Horrocks, J.P. |
| „ W. Higenbottam, J.P. | „ T. Hourigan |
| „ W. Hindley, J.P. | „ W. Kearney, J.P. |
| „ J. L. Prescott, J.P. | „ T. Lowe, J.P. |
| Coun. F. Bamford | „ R. Starkie, J.P. |
| „ T. Battersby | |

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE :

Chairman :

Councillor W. KEARNEY, J.P.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor T. LOWE, J.P.

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| His Worship the Mayor (Councillor H. Gough, J.P.) | |
| Alderman N. Fairhurst, J.P. | Councillor T. Hourigan |
| „ J. L. Prescott, J.P. | „ J. Parr |
| Councillor F. Bamford | „ R. Starkie, J.P. |
| „ T. Gerrard | „ W. Woolstencroft |
| „ T. R. Greenough, J.P. | |

Co-opted Members :

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| The Mayoress (Mrs. Gough) | |
| Dr. J. H. Young | Mrs. Lowe |
| Mrs. Fairclough | Mr. H. Warburton |
| Mrs. Greenough | |

BOROUGH OF LEIGH.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 30/9/39).

H. J. PETERS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Appointed 1/10/39).

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer :

V. J. WOODWARD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 30/9/39).

H. L. SETTLE, M.Sc., M.D., D.P.H. (Appointed 6/11/39).

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Canal Boats Acts, Rat Officer :

*†A. N. NICKLIN.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

†F. Burgin (Resigned 31/3/39), †H. Burrow (Resigned 31/12/39),

†H. Clusky, ††T. Hailwood, †J. Mather (Appointed 1/11/39).

*Cert. R.S.I., †Cert S.I.B., ‡Qualified Meat and Other Foods Inspector.

*Health Visitors and School Nurses :**††E. A. Atherton (Appointed 1/3/39), ††A. B. Belyea, *†A. B. Boydell
(Resigned 4/1/40), *†L. M. Goulden, *††D. M. Hexter, †M. Smith.*Maternity Home Staff :**†S. J. Storey (Matron), *†M. Barker (Sister), *†T. C. Hall,
*†B. J. Heathcote (Resigned 15/6/39), *†W. Parr, *†E. Johnson,
(Staff Nurses).*Municipal Midwives :*

†A. Gibbon, †E. Makin, *†A. McConnell, *†C. J. Williams.

*State Registered Nurse † Central Midwives' Board Certificate

‡ Health Visitors' Certificate

Consultants (Part-time) :

K. V. Bailey, M.C., M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.O.G.....Obstetrician

G. E. Hayward, M.B., M.R.C.S.....Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon

J. Holt, M.R.C.V.S.....Veterinary Surgeon

*Mrs. Dickinson.....Puerperal Nurse

Clerical Staff :

S. Cunningham (Senior). Gladys M. Davies.

Hilda M. Dixon. Helen Mulrooney.

The clerical staff is engaged jointly in Health, Maternity and Child Welfare
and School Medical Work.

Public Health and School Medical Department,
 Town Hall,
 Leigh,
 Lancashire.
 March, 1941

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health
 and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees.*

Messrs. Chairmen, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first report as Medical Officer of Health.

The report has reference to the year 1939, and in accordance with the desire of the Minister of Health it has been materially shortened.

Among the resignations which occurred during the year was that of my predecessor, Dr. W. A. McLennan who had been with the borough for a period of six years and had been Medical Officer of Health since 1935.

As a result of the national emergency and the outbreak of hostilities much work of an entirely novel character had to be undertaken by the department. The enthusiasm, ready willingness and sustained efforts of each member of my staff enabled us to deal successfully with the increased pressure of work.

I cannot conclude without paying tribute to the help and encouragement I have at all times received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee respectively.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. PETERS.

SECTION A.— STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Borough covers an area of 6,359 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population at mid-year 1939 was :—

| | |
|---|----------|
| Population (a)..... | 46,210 |
| „ (b) | 46,000 |
| „ (Census) 1931..... | 45,317 |
| No. of inhabited houses, end of 1939, according to Rate Books..... | 13,843 |
| Rateable value..... | £237,493 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate..... | £989 |

Social Conditions.

The inhabitants are largely of the working class, coal mining employing the largest number of any single occupation. This is closely followed by textile workers.

The percentage of insured persons unemployed in December, 1939 was 9.33 compared with 18.5 per cent in December, 1938.

Comments on the vital statistics for the year 1939.

The maternal mortality rate of 2.83 compares very favourably with a figure of 5.32 for the year 1938 and with the national figure of 2.82 for the current year.

The infant mortality rate of 71 compares with a rate of 55 for the previous year and a national figure of 50.

There has been a big decrease in the incidence of diphtheria during the year. The number of cases notified was 163 and of these 10 proved fatal. In 1938 there were 339 cases of diphtheria and 17 of these died.

The Measles & Whooping Cough Regulations, 1939, became effective as from the 1st November and from this date to the end of the year 3 cases of measles and 60 cases of whooping cough were notified.

There were no deaths from measles but 2 children died from whooping cough.

The adjusted death rate for the borough is 15.47 and this represents an increase on the rate of 14.1 for the previous year.

The adjusted death rate of the borough is comparable with the crude death rate for the country as a whole which is 12.1.

During the year there was an increased mortality from cancer. Seventy three persons died from this disease compared with fifty four during the previous year. The bigger increase in deaths occurred among females, forty females dying from the disease compared with twenty six during the previous year.

There was also an increase in the number of deaths from bronchitis, the figures for 1939 and 1938 being 44 and 25 respectively.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1939

| | | Total | Male | Female | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------|------|--------|--|
| Live Births (a) | Legitimate | 657 | 321 | 336 | Birth Rate per 1000 of the resident population....14.58 |
| | Illegitimate | 18 | 13 | 5 | |
| | Totals | 675 | 334 | 341 | |
| Live Births (b) | Legitimate | 656 | 321 | 335 | |
| | Illegitimate | 18 | 13 | 5 | |
| | Totals | 674 | 334 | 340 | |
| Stillbirths.... | | 32 | 15 | 17 | Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 45 |
| Deaths | | 598 | 312 | 286 | Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resi- dent population....13.0 |

1939 Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.19) 15.47 per 1000.

| | Deaths | Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births |
|--|--------|--|
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes :— | | |
| Puerperal Sepsis | nil | nil |
| Other Puerperal Causes | 2 | 2.83 |
| | 2 | 2.83 |

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

| | Total | Male | Female |
|--------------|-------|------|--------|
| Legitimate | 46 | 29 | 17 |
| Illegitimate | 2 | 2 | — |
| Totals | 48 | 31 | 17 |

Death rates of Infants under one year of age :—

| | |
|---|-----|
| All infants per 1000 live births | 71 |
| Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births | 70 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births... | 111 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 73 |
| „ „ Measles (all ages) | nil |
| „ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) | 2 |
| „ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | 3 |

NOTE :—Population (a) For calculation of Birth Rates
 „ (b) „ „ „ Death Rates and incidence
 of notifiable disease
 Live Births (a) „ „ „ Birth Rates
 „ „ (b) „ „ „ Infant and Maternal
 mortalities

Comparative Table

| | Per 1000 Estimated Population | | | | | Maternal Mortality Rate | | Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|--|
| | Live Birth Rate | Crude Death Rate | Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis | Death Rate from Cancer | Rate per 1000 Live Births | Per 1000 total live and still births | | |
| BOROUGH OF LEIGH | | | | | | | | |
| Mean of 5 years --- 1934 — 1938 | 13.84 | 12.82 | 0.46 | 1.30 | 5.70 | 5.34 | 69 | |
| Year 1938 | 15.3 | 11.9 | 0.43 | 1.16 | 5.65 | 5.32 | 55 | ∞ |
| Year 1939 | 14.58 | 13.0 | 0.43 | 1.58 | 2.96 | 2.83 | 71 | |
| Increase or decrease in 1939 on 5 years average — 1934 — 1938 | +0.74 | +0.18 | —0.03 | +0.28 | —2.74 | —2.51 | + 2 | |
| Increase or decrease in 1939 on 1938 | —0.72 | +1.10 | nil | +0.42 | —2.69 | —2.49 | +16 | |

Causes of Death During 1939.

| Cause of Death | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-------|---------|-------|
| 1. Typhoid fever, etc..... | — | — | — |
| 2. Measles..... | — | — | — |
| 3. Scarlet fever..... | — | — | — |
| 4. Whooping Cough..... | — | 2 | 2 |
| 5. Diphtheria..... | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| 6. Influenza..... | 8 | 11 | 19 |
| 7. Encephalitis Lethargica..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever..... | — | — | — |
| 9. Respiratory tuberculosis..... | 11 | 9 | 20 |
| 10. Other tuberculosis..... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 11. Syphilis..... | — | — | — |
| 12. General paralysis of insane, etc..... | 1 | — | 1 |
| 13. Cancer..... | 33 | 40 | 73 |
| 14. Diabetes..... | 7 | 8 | 15 |
| 15. Cerebral haemorrhage..... | 26 | 21 | 47 |
| 16. Heart disease..... | 42 | 57 | 99 |
| 17. Aneurysm..... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 18. Other circulatory diseases..... | 23 | 13 | 36 |
| 19. Bronchitis..... | 28 | 16 | 44 |
| 20. Pneumonia (all forms)..... | 17 | 15 | 32 |
| 21. Other respiratory diseases..... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 22. Peptic ulcer..... | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| 23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)..... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 24. Appendicitis..... | 1 | — | 1 |
| 25. Cirrhosis of liver | — | — | — |
| 26. Other liver diseases..... | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 27. Other digestive diseases | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| 28. Nephritis..... | 11 | 11 | 22 |
| 29. Puerperal sepsis..... | — | — | — |
| 30. Other puerperal causes..... | — | 2 | 2 |
| 31. Congenital causes, etc..... | 18 | 11 | 29 |
| 32. Senility..... | 23 | 26 | 29 |
| 33. Suicide..... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 34. Other violence..... | 10 | 8 | 18 |
| 35. Other defined causes..... | 20 | 15 | 35 |
| 36. Ill defined causes..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Diarrhoea (2 years and over) | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| TOTALS | 312 | 286 | 598 |

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1939

| | Birth-rate per 1,000 total population. | | Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population. | | | | | | | | Rate per 1,000 live Births. | |
|---|--|---------------|---|----------------|------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|--|----------------------------|
| | Live Births | Still Births. | All Causes. | Enteric Fever. | Small-pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Whooping Cough. | Diphtheria. | Diphtheria. | Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years). | Total Deaths under 1 Year. |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leigh | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| England and Wales | 14.58 | 0.69 | 15.47 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.21 | 0.41 | 0.0 | 71 |
| 126 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000) | 15.0 | 0.59 | 12.1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.21 | 4.6 | 50 |
| 148 Smaller Towns (1931 Adjusted Populations 25,000—50,000) | 14.8 | 0.59 | 12.0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.19 | 6.3 | 53 |
| London | 15.6 | 0.57 | 11.2 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.20 | 3.0 | 40 |
| | 12.3 | 0.44 | 11.9 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.18 | 8.2 | 48 |

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Staff.

Full particulars regarding the Public Health Officers of the Authority are incorporated at the beginning of the report.

Laboratory Facilities.

In January of this year arrangements were made for the bacteriological examination of throat swabs to be carried out at the laboratory at Astley Sanatorium. Previously such examinations had been done at the Wigan Royal Infirmary.

The table below shows the examinations made for the presence of diphtheria bacilli and the results obtained.

| | Positive | Negative | Total |
|--------------|----------|----------|-------|
| Throat Swabs | 50 | 350 | 400 |
| Nasal Swabs | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| Ear Swabs | — | 3 | 3 |

One eye swab was examined in connection with the bacteriological diagnosis of gonorrhoeal ophthalmia and was found to be negative.

The Tuberculosis Officer arranges for the bacteriological examination of sputum in connection with the diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Water samples are submitted to Manchester University Public Health Laboratory for chemical and bacteriological examination.

The bacteriological examination of milk samples is also carried out at this Laboratory.

Ambulance Arrangements.

Four ambulances are provided by the Local Authority for the removal of non-infectious medical, maternity and accident cases. These ambulances are now directly under the control of the Medical Officer of Health. Prior to the outbreak of hostilities they had been administered by the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade.

Infectious cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital at Astley by the ambulances of the Leigh Joint Hospital Board. These are housed at the Isolation Hospital.

Nursing in the Home.

There are three district nurses working in the area. They attend patients at the request of the medical practitioners. They are not available for the nursing of cases of infectious disease and they do not act as midwives or maternity nurses.

The health visitors give assistance in the home nursing of cases of measles, whooping cough and ophthalmia neonatorum.

A special nurse is available for the home nursing of cases of puerperal pyrexia. As a rule, however, such cases are removed to Astley Sanatorium.

At the end of 1938 there were 12 midwives in private practice in the borough. At the end of the current year only two midwives were in private practice in the borough. In the course of the year two of the midwives previously in private practice took up appointments with other authorities, one was compulsorily retired, one ceased to practice, one obtained an appointment on the staff of the Municipal Maternity Hospital and five voluntarily surrendered their certificates. The remaining two continued in practice but of these one did not attend any cases during the year.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The arrangements regarding treatment centres and clinics remain the same as in previous years.

Hospitals — Public and Voluntary.

The Municipal Maternity Home has eighteen beds for maternity cases; at Leigh Infirmary there are three beds for maternity cases and six beds are available at the Public Assistance Institution, just outside the borough boundry.

The only voluntary hospital in the borough area is the Leigh Infirmary.

The Local Authority contributes to the Manchester and Salford hospitals, which receive many patients from the borough.

Midwifery Service.

Four municipal midwives are employed by the borough. They delivered 158 cases during the year, either in the capacity of midwife or maternity nurse.

Maternity Service.

On many occasions during the year the Municipal Maternity Home was overcrowded, and suitable steps are now being taken to prevent the recurrence of this pernicious practice.

The number of patients admitted during the year was 512, an increase of 41 on the figure for 1938.

The following are the statistics for the Home for the year 1939.

| No. of | | | |
|-------------------|------|------|-----|
| Patients admitted | .... | .... | 512 |
| Live Births | .... | .. | 485 |
| Still Births | .... | .... | 20 |
| Total Births | .... | .... | 505 |

No. of cases notified as :

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| (a) Puerperal Fever | nil |
| (b) Puerperal Pyrexia.... | 2 |
| (c) Pemphigus Neonatorum | nil |
| (d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.... | 1 |

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Maternal Deaths | nil |
| Abortions | nil |
| Normal deliveries | 410 |
| Abnormal deliveries .. | 105 |
| Medical inductions | 15 |
| Versions | 2 |
| Instrumental deliveries | 83 |

No. of cases of :

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Albuminuria | 15 |
| Eclampsia ... | 3 |
| Placenta Praevia ... | 2 |
| Ante-Partum Haemorrhage .. | 2 |
| Post-Partum Haemorrhage | 3 |
| Tachycardia .. | 1 |
| Phlebitis | 1 |
| Pernicious Anaemia | 1 |
| Asthma ... | 1 |

Other abnormalities :

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Transverse lie .. | nil |
| Unreduced Occipito-Posterior | 8 |
| Face presentations | 1 |
| Hydramnios | 4 |
| Breech presentations.... | 16 |
| Twin pregnancies | 5 |
| Patients X-rayed | 65 |

No. of foetal deaths :

(a) Stillborn :

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Toxaemia of Mother .. | 2 |
| Premature | 3 |
| Anencephalic | 7 |
| Forceps deliveries | 4 |
| Breech deliveries | 2 |
| Ante-Partum Haemorrhage .. | 2 |

Infant deaths :

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Exomphalus | 1 |
| Cardiac Failure | 1 |
| Asphyxia Pallida | 1 |
| Congenital Feebleness.. | 1 |
| Umbilical Haemorrhage | 1 |

Transferred before delivery :

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| To Leigh Infirmary | 4 |
| To St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester | 3 |

Transferred after delivery :

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| To Astley Sanatorium.. | 1 |
| To Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester | 1 |

Health Visitors.

Five full-time Health Visitors are employed by the Borough.

The Health Visitors made 3895 home visits to infants and pre-school children during the year.

The following is a summary of their work.

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------|------|
| Primary Visits | {under 1 year | 620} | 634 |
| | {over 1 year | 14} | |
| Re-visits | {under 1 year | 1200} | 3261 |
| | {over 1 year | 2061} | |

Child Life Protection.

The Health Visitors undertake the supervision and protection of children under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

Arrangements for Dental, Orthopaedic, etc. cases.

All the facilities provided for the school children of the borough are available to pre-school children suffering from dental, orthopaedic and other defects. Dental treatment is available for expectant mothers.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Closet Accommodation.

Below are set out particulars regarding the closet accommodation in the borough.

| | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Fresh water closets | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13,125 |
| Waste water closets | .... | .... | .... | .... | 461 |
| Privies (no water supply or sewer available).... | | | | | 57 |
| Pail closets (no water supply or sewer available) | .... | .... | .... | .... | 6 |

During the year 317 waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets.

As a result of demolition of property under the Housing Acts the number of privies in the town was reduced from 61 to 57.

Public Cleansing.

The arrangements for the collection and disposal of house refuse remain the same as in previous years. The Cleansing Superintendent informs me that 14,700 movable ashbins were emptied on 745,410 occasions.

(c) Notices Served.

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| (a) Informal | 428 |
| (b) Statutory | 152 |

(d) Result.

| | |
|---|------|
| Number of Defects dealt with | 3989 |
| ,, ,, ,, abated after statutory notice | 659 |
| ,, ,, ,, ,, informal notice | 3142 |

Shops.

During the year 278 inspections were made.

Three notices were served during the year and in each case the improvement required was obtained.

Schools.

During the year new playgrounds were constructed at the Central Council Senior and Pennington C.E. Schools and re-flooring was carried out in a large classroom at Bedford Methodist School.

At St. Peter's School a teachers' rest room and lavatories were provided in the Mixed Department, and alterations were carried out to the Babies' Room in the infants' Department.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The annual report of the Rat Officer for the year under review shows 354 visits were paid to infested premises and a total of 2,329 rats destroyed. The services of three rat catchers are available to the public, the Council providing each with two dog licences, three ferrets and the requisite netting.

Canal Boats.

The number of boats on the register at the end of the year, which could reasonably be believed to be in use, or available for use was 22.

Fifteen boats were inspected during the year, and there were no infringements of the Canal Boats Acts nor of the regulations thereunder.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. (Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Inspections (2) | Written Notices (3) | Occupiers prosecuted (4) |
| Factories with mechanical power | 192 | 16 | Nil |
| Factories without mechanical power..... | 60 | 5 | Nil |
| Other premises | — | Nil | Nil |
| Total..... | 252 | 21 | Nil |

2. Defects found.

| Particulars (1) | Number of Defects | | | Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5) |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| | Found (2) | Remed'd (3) | Referred to H.M. Inspector (4) | |
| Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :— | | | | |
| Want of cleanliness..... | 4 | 4 | — | — |
| Want of ventilation..... | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding..... | — | — | — | — |
| Want of drainage of floors | — | — | — | — |
| Other nuisances..... | 2 | 2 | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences: | | | | |
| Insufficient..... | — | — | — | — |
| Unsuitable or defective | 1 | — | — | — |
| Not separate for sexes.. | — | — | — | — |
| Other Offences..... | — | — | — | — |
| Total..... | 7 | 6 | — | — |

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

No. of New Houses erected during the year.

| | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) .. | 304 |
| (i) by Local Authority.. | 186 |
| (ii) by other Local Authorities | — |
| (iii) by other bodies or persons | 118 |
| (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :— | |
| (i) by Local Authority | 180 |
| (ii) by other bodies or persons.. | — |

General Remarks.

Of the clearance orders made by the Council 20 were confirmed by the Minister of Health and 4 were not confirmed at the time of the outbreak of hostilities. Owing to war conditions 5 Clearance Orders which had been confirmed by the Minister, were not carried to the stage of demolition.

Representations were made in respect of 14 individual houses under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. In 7 instances, the dwellings were demolished.

During the year 33 houses were completely re-conditioned.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

During the year, 38 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these 12 were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and in three instances the results obtained were positive.

The sanitary inspectors paid 227 visits to farms and dairies.

The number of distributors of designated milk is as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|---|
| Pasteurised.... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 |
| Tuberculin Tested.... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 9 |
| Accredited .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |

The number of cowkeepers on the register at 31st December was 35 and the number of retail purveyors 123.

Adulteration.

The local police superintendent reports that up to the 1st October, 1939, the following samples were taken in the area and submitted to the public analyst for examination.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|----------------|------|------|---|
| Milk.... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 54 | | |
| Cheese | .... | .... | .... | 4 | Syrup | .... | .... | 1 |
| Milk (condensed) | .... | .... | .... | 2 | Fruit (canned) | .... | .... | 4 |
| Glauber salts | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Fish (canned) | .... | .... | 1 |
| Epsom salts | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Flour (S.R.) | .... | .... | 3 |
| Flour | .... | .... | .... | 2 | Lard | .... | .... | 3 |
| Barley | .... | .... | .... | 3 | Rice.... | .... | .... | 5 |
| Tapioca | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Tea .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Jam .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 | Oatmeal | .... | .... | 1 |
| Sauce | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Pickles | .... | .... | 2 |
| Sugar | .... | .... | .... | 1 | Sago.... | .... | .... | 1 |

No prosecution was undertaken during the year.

As from the 1st October, Leigh became an authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. From this date till the end of the year 22 samples of milk were submitted to the public analyst. In one instance milk was found to be deficient in fat to the extent of 8 per cent. A successful prosecution resulted with a fine of £7 inclusive of costs.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

As the table on page 19 of this report shows, there has been a reduction in the incidence of diphtheria.

During the year only 338 children were immunised against diphtheria. Parents are strongly urged to make a fuller use of the facilities for immunisation.

| | <i>School</i> | <i>Pre-school</i> |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| No. of children immunised.. | 323 | 15 |
| No. of children schick tested | 112 | 16 |
| No. of children found schick —ve | 109 | 15 |
| No. of children found schick +ve | 3 | 1 |

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

| DISEASE | CASES NOTIFIED | | | | | | | | | | | Total Deaths | Total Cases removed to Hospital | Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| | Total Cases notified | Under 1 year | 1-2 years | 2-3 years | 3-4 years | 4-5 years | 5-10 years | 10-15 years | 15-20 years | 20-35 years | 35-45 years | | | | 45-65 years | 65 and over |
| Smallpox... | — | — | 3 | 6 | 5 | 15 | — | — | 21 | 16 | — | — | 1 | 10 | 163 | 7 |
| Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ... | 164 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 55 | 36 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | 8 | — |
| Erysipelas ... | 16 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | 5 | — | — | 22 | — |
| Scarlet Fever... | 38 | — | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 14 | 6 | 3 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia... | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | 1 | — | — | — | 7 | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | 6 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia | 100 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 17 | 19 | 13 | 4 | 32 | — | — |
| Acute Influenzal Pneumonia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Encephalitis Lethargica ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Measles ... | 3 | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... | 60 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 28 | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| Any other Disease notified in the District : | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTALS | 398 | 21 | 14 | 23 | 21 | 29 | 108 | 49 | 33 | 49 | 24 | 21 | 6 | 46 | 203 | 7 |

Tuberculosis.

It has not been found necessary to enforce the provisions of the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

New Cases and Mortality During 1939

| Age periods | NEW CASES | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|----------------|----|
| | Respiratory | | Non-respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-respirator | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| 1 year | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 5 „ | — | — | 4 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 10 „ | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| 15 „ | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 20 „ | 4 | 5 | 1 | — | 3 | — | — | — |
| 25 „ | 3 | 5 | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| 35 „ | 2 | 3 | — | 1 | 1 | 3 | — | — |
| 45 „ | 3 | 3 | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | — | — |
| 55 „ | 2 | — | 1 | — | 5 | 1 | — | 1 |
| 65 and upwards.. | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Totals | 14 | 21 | 12 | 4 | 11 | 8 | 2 | 2 |
| | 35 | | 16 | | 19 | | 4 | |

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 2 in 23.

